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Manitoba

Annual Report 1988 - 89

Natural Resources

The Manitoba Habitat Heritage Corporation

Manitoba

Natural Resources

The Manitoba Habitat
Heritage Corporation

P.O. Box 41
1495 St. James Street
Winnipeg, Manitoba, CANADA
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Hon. Harry J. Enns,
Minister of Natural Resources.

Sir:

I am pleased to present the third Annual Report to the Legislature on the Habitat Heritage Program for the period of April 1, 1988 to March 31, 1989.

During the past fiscal year the Manitoba Habitat Heritage Corporation has continued its work protecting and rehabilitating fish and wildlife habitats. In addition, the Corporation has made progress in two new and significant directions.

The Corporation has become a major partner in the Critical Wildlife Habitat Program in Manitoba where federal, provincial and private funds have been coordinated in a cooperative drive to address serious habitat problems in southern Manitoba.

The Corporation has initiated a Heritage Stream Habitat Reach Program designed to direct sustainable stewardship of key streams and rivers in Manitoba's five physiographic areas.

The Corporation has also developed aims and objectives for the forseeable future which can be expected to address developing habitat problems. Funding continues to be inadequate. In 1990, a major priority of the Corporation will be the generation of increased funding.

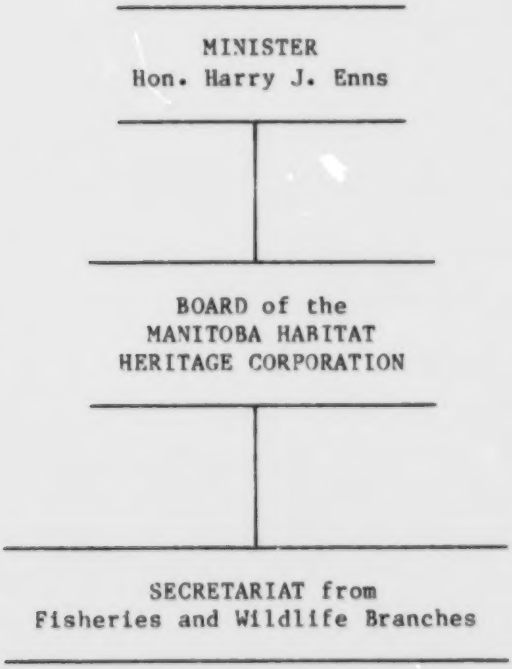
Respectfully Submitted,

Don McMaster,
Chairman of The Manitoba
Habitat Heritage Corporation.

CONTENTS

	Page
Administration and Objectives	1
Members of the Board	1
Activities of the Corporation	2
Fish Habitat Enhancement Techniques	3
Wildlife Habitat Enhancement Techniques	5
Fish Habitat Projects, 1988/89	6
Wildlife Habitat Projects, 1988/89	9
General Administration and Public Information	11
Auditor's Report and Financial Statements	13

Organization Chart
The Manitoba Habitat Heritage Corporation



ANNUAL REPORT - 1988/89

THE MANITOBA HABITAT HERITAGE CORPORATION

ADMINISTRATION AND OBJECTIVES

Since February 1986, the funding and operation of the Manitoba Habitat Heritage Program has been administered under a corporation, The Manitoba Habitat Heritage Corporation, which operates under a board of directors.

The Corporation's Board of Directors was appointed by the Lieutenant Governor in Council. The board consists of knowledgeable conservationists who examine project proposals put forward to the Corporation by government representatives and public groups.

These proposals are evaluated on the basis of technical merit, public demand, and environmental need. Chief targets for this program are habitats in Agro-Manitoba that are the most vulnerable to destruction, and habitats of rare and endangered species. The Board makes decisions regarding the initiation of new projects, and reviews the progress of continuing projects before allocating additional funding. Funds are allocated on a 50:50 basis to fish and wildlife projects.

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

The board members volunteer their time and expertise to M.H.H.C. During their third year of operation they met 5 times in various locations throughout the province to review and inspect projects.

Members of the Board include:

Don McMaster (Chairperson), an avid outdoorsman, landscape painter and member of the Manitoba Wildlife Federation and Manitoba Naturalist Society.

Anne Longston (Vice-Chairperson), Vice-principal of Lac Du Bonnet Senior School, rural woodlot owner and manager, and outdoor enthusiast.

Dr. Roger Smith, professor and head of Zoology, Brandon University.

Arthur Allan, member of the Manitoba Wildlife Federation.

Paul Murphy, former executive director of Manitoba Wildlife Federation and past editor of Wildlife Crusader.

Diane Brueton, M.E.S. York University, member of the Manitoba Naturalist Society.

Al Mickey, machinist with C.P.R., and member of the Manitoba Naturalist Society.

Leo LeTourneau, Ph.D. Admin., environmental, ecological, and wildlife habitat researcher.

Elmo Helgason, Commercial Fisherman, President of Lake Manitoba Commercial Fisherman's Association.

ACTIVITIES OF THE CORPORATION

In order to achieve the objectives of the conservation and enhancement of habitat, the Corporation undertakes a variety of activities.

Activities of the Corporation include:

Either alone or by agreement with other agencies, groups or individuals, manage, improve or restore habitat on public land and waters.

Manage, improve or restore habitat on private land and waters by agreements (usually leases) with the landowner.

Assist an owner of private land to effectively manage habitat by means of grants or making available the advice and services of habitat experts.

Provide information to the public about fish and wildlife populations and habitat through various media techniques to promote public awareness of and public participation in the conservation, restoration and enhancement of fish and wildlife habitats and populations.

Habitat Leases

Often agreements are entered into with landowners to enable the M.H.H.C. to manage important fish and wildlife habitat on private land. This agreement usually takes the form of a lease. Payments to the landowner are customarily based on a land assessment, and the leases are generally of a five year duration. The conditions of the lease state the types of activities which may occur on the land during the term of the lease. As an example, grazing of cattle may be permitted if it is deemed to have no detrimental effect on the habitat for wildlife and fish populations.

Habitat Acquisition

When management rights to "key" or critical habitat areas cannot be obtained through leases (easements), or mutual agreement, it sometimes becomes desirable to secure these important areas by outright purchase. Purchase of the land insures the protection and preservation of the habitat for future generations. This important component of the program accounts for 25% of the funds allocated to the Corporation.

Habitat Enhancement

Enhancement or restoration efforts focus on improving the productive capacity of habitats, thereby increasing the abundance or diversity of fish and wildlife species. Some enhancement projects are completed in a single season, whereas others may require work over a number of years to produce the desired results. Subsequent monitoring of fish and wildlife responses are undertaken to evaluate effectiveness of various techniques and thereby maximize benefits on future projects.

Described on the following pages are some of the habitat improvement or restoration techniques which are used in Habitat Heritage Program projects.

FISH HABITAT ENHANCEMENT TECHNIQUES

Lake Aeration

Very low oxygen levels may occur in small, productive lakes during the winter, and fish kills may result. Winter survival of fish populations can be assured by using an artificial aeration system designed specifically for the reservoir or lake. Compressors circulate fresh air within the lake and improve year round fish survival. All of the Habitat Heritage aeration projects have been co-funded by either local communities, Manitoba Parks Branch or the Manitoba Water Services Board.

Rearing Ponds

Small lakes and ponds are being developed as rearing ponds where newly-hatched walleye are grown for their first summer in a predator-free environment, then removed and used to replenish walleye stocks or establish new stocks in our lakes and reservoirs. Using man-made structures as walleye rearing ponds offers an added bonus over natural lakes and ponds, since the former can be completely drained, ensuring that all of the walleye are released.

Improvement of Spawning and Rearing Habitat

Siltation or excavation of gravel and rock substrates in streams can severely reduce or eliminate fish spawning and feeding. Pools and riffles may be recreated in a stream which has been channelized, to restore habitat for fish spawning. Also, hiding and resting spaces may be improved by adding boulders, logs or brush piles.

Stream Clearance

Often stock watering dams and stream crossings can be obstructions to fish moving to historical spawning or feeding habitat. Excessive flow velocities through culverts are a common problem. Removal or modification of barriers may ensure fish access to upstream or downstream habitat.

Fishways

Access over large obstructions or over barriers that cannot be removed, may be provided by a fishway. Using baffles to reduce water velocities and create compartments of slow water where fish can rest, these structures enable fish to climb, through a series of steps, over high dams and waterfalls. By improving or restoring access to spawning grounds, fish populations will be enhanced.

Water Level Control

Regulated water levels help to prevent fish winterkills and the possible emigration of desirable fishes from the lake. Control structures at the outlets of lakes may also prevent undesirable fish species from entering the lake from outlet tributaries.

Multiple Resource Use Projects

The M.H.H.C. has commissioned studies to explore the opportunities that exist for a more resource based approach to the development and management of selected watersheds. Such an approach would incorporate fish habitat protection and development measures into an overall plan to manage or develop land and aquatic resources. Initiatives proposed have included a more "natural" agricultural drain design, re-creation of pools and riffles in channelized streams, and streambank stabilization through agricultural lands where recreational stream fisheries have been created.

WILDLIFE HABITAT ENHANCEMENT TECHNIQUES

Prescribed Burning

Prescribed burning is a technique which is used to improve the quantity and quality of vegetation on shrub or grassland ranges or to create grasslands in a predominantly forested area. Fire removes old, unproductive growth and releases nutrients into the soil. The resulting lush, new growth provides forage for a variety of big game and non-game species. To insure that the burn will have the desired effect on the vegetation and will be confined to the treatment area, comprehensive planning in conjunction with the Regional Services and Forestry Branches is undertaken, fire guards are constructed and weather conditions are monitored. The response of the vegetation following fire treatment is monitored to assess effectiveness of the burn.

Mechanical Treatments

Stands of aspen, willow and other species become unusable as a big game food source as they mature. In order to encourage succulent young foliage at or near ground level, the decadent growth is slashed or mechanically knocked down. This increases sunlight penetration and encourages the growth of shrubs, forbs and grasses to produce a high quality nutritious food source.

Plantings

Sometimes habitats for selected wildlife species are enhanced by the establishment of tame forage such as alfalfa. These plantings provide a nutritious food source at critical times of the year and help to reduce wildlife depredation on adjacent lands. They also function as nesting habitat for waterfowl.

Tree planting programs may be undertaken in areas containing insufficient amounts of wooded escape cover. These plantings also help to control wind erosion and function as snow catchments.

Water Level Control

The ability to regulate water levels is essential in maintaining and improving productivity in wetland and marsh habitats. In some locations flooding may be necessary to enhance habitat for waterfowl, shorebirds and aquatic mammals. Water levels are controlled through the construction of dykes and dams and the installation of pumps. Following the regulation of water levels, other improvements such as the construction of nesting islands and the establishment of nesting cover and aquatic vegetation can occur.

Structures

The abundance of some wildlife species may be limited by the availability of nesting sites. This requirement may be fulfilled by the placement of nesting structures for waterfowl, hawks and owls.

In other areas where watering sites for wildlife are in short supply, dugouts are created.

Public Use

Sometimes enhancement projects are located near cities or towns, and present a prime opportunity for educational and recreational viewing of wildlife. Trails, observation towers and posted interpretive information can encourage maximum use by the public while exerting minimum disturbance to resident wildlife populations. Proposals which facilitate and encourage public participation are being considered for future enhancement projects.

FISH HABITAT PROJECTS - 1988/1989 *

Special Projects

Heritage Stream Habitat Programme
Funding: $4,430
One year
Ongoing

Stream fisheries habitats have been eliminated or severely altered in Manitoba by road building, farm drainage, forestry, and hydro-electric operations. A study was commissioned to identify and develop sustainable yield "stewardship" plans for river and stream reaches within five physiographic regions of Manitoba. A Heritage Stream Habitat Reach is defined as a segment of river or stream channel that is distinguished by the presence of unique fish habitat and by the interest of resource users expressed by present fishermen and conservation organizations or that will be expressed by future generations.

Fish Habitat Inventory and Classification
Funding: $3,500
One year
Ongoing

Identification and classification of fish habitats are prerequisites to rehabilitation or protective actions by the Corporation. In a pilot study, a contract consultant determined the condition of fish habitat in 50 watershed units within the Western Region. Information included biological resources, water quality, morphology and hydrology, land use and habitat conditions. Implementation of this computerized system will help to organize and guide future activities by the Corporation.

* Note: "Funding identifies only funds spent in the 1988/89 fiscal year".

Southwestern Region

Oak Lake
Funding: $4,990
One year
Ongoing

Oak Lake is the largest sport fish water in southwest Manitoba, and supports an active fishery, camping and cottaging area. When degraded water quality began to result in an almost annual winterkill, local business people saw their investments threatened. In order to prevent winterkills, local interest groups monitor oxygen levels in the lake. As required, MHHC provided funds for aeration and snow clearing on a cost share basis with the local municipal groups.

Mary Jane Reservoir
Funding: $2,230
One year
Ongoing

Fish movement out of Mary Jane Reservoir via the outlet structure have reduced angling opportunities in the Reservoir. In cooperation with La Riviere Wildlife Association, a screen was installed to prevent fish migration downstream.

Shoal Lake
Funding: $25,280
One year
Ongoing

Shoal is a 526 ha lake that suffers fish winterkills almost every year. With financial assistance from The Shoal Lake Lions Club, a partial lake aeration system, similar to the site-tested Adam Lake design, was installed. An aerated 2 ha dyked-off portion at the north end of the lake will provide a refuge of oxygenated water each winter.

Boissevain Reservoir
Funding: $4,070
One year
Ongoing

Boissevain Reservoir is 36 ha in size and supports a walleye, pike and perch fishery. Winterkills occur occasionally which decimate the sportfish populations. With assistance from the Town of Boissevain, Turtle Mountain Wildlife Association and Manitoba Water Services Board, an aeration system was installed to reduce winterkills and enhance sport fishing opportunities.

Elgin Reservoir
Funding: $1,160
One year
Ongoing

Fish populations in Elgin Reservoir have declined as a result of downstream migration over the outlet control structure. A metal frame and screen was installed to reduce downstream fish migration and maintain fish abundances in the reservoir.

Eastern Region

Rat River
Lonesands Project
Funding: $480
Five years
Ongoing

A 25 year land easement of a stream corridor was negotiated with a landowner in order to improve and develop a trout fishery. In 1988 Manitoba Fly Fishers constructed a temporary dam at the outlet of a small tributary to create a small pond.

Previous improvements have included the erection of fencing to exclude cattle from the stream, pumping water to cattle watering sites and the construction of a timber bridge. This project demonstrates to the public various types of land use practices which can result in improved water quality and decreased soil erosion through shoreline stabilization and protection.

Lac du Bonnet
Funding: $14,000
One year
Complete

Lac du Bonnet has experienced a severe decline in walleye abundances over the past few years. Degradation of lake spawning areas by ongoing bank erosion was considered a major cause of the decline. A spawning reef comprised of cobble and boulders was constructed to improve walleye reproductive success.

Interlake Region

Crossen Lake
Funding: $8,640
Two years
Complete

In order to successfully use Crossen Lake as a walleye rearing pond, it was necessary to install a control structure at its outlet and construct dykes. The pond will continue to be operated in cooperation with the Lake Manitoba Commercial Fishermen's Association, benefiting both the commercial and sport fisheries of Lake Manitoba.

Icelandic River
Funding: $14,420
One year
Complete

Walleye populations on Lake Winnipeg are heavily exploited by sport and commercial fishermen. Poor walleye spawning success in the channelized Icelandic River stimulated a project to re-create spawning areas using field stone riffles. Similar projects by MHHC have improved walleye reproductive success at Wavey Creek, Mink River and Wilson River.

Western Region

North Burrell Lake
Funding: $5,930
One year
Complete

North Burrell Lake, situated near the north end of Lake Winnipegosis, was developed by MHHC as a walleye rearing area. Through its operation since 1985 it became apparent that improvements were needed to achieve maximum efficiency. Discharge and water level controls were altered or replaced to ensure lake re-filling and complete walleye fingerling release.

Verall Lake
Funding: $1,220
One year
Complete

Verall Lake was reclaimed in 1988 and re-stocked with walleye. A fish barrier constructed at the outflow to prevent access of competing species was damaged by high flows. To protect the preferred species composition of Verall Lake, the barrier was repaired.

Wilson River
Funding: $21,720
One year
Complete

Since 1948, Wilson River has lost 31% of its channel length as a result of meander cut-offs. This has caused extensive erosion and loss of spawning habitat. Riffles were constructed to arrest channel erosion and improve spawning habitat for Dauphin Lake walleye. Also, a pre-development study was conducted on Wilson and Vermillion rivers to determine present spawning success and sites for rehabilitation.

North Duck River
Funding: $1,110
One year
Complete

The North Duck River has been stocked with brook trout since 1954. Pool habitat for holding and overwintering trout is limited. Pools were created by re-arranging existing boulders into a more distinct pool-riffle sequence. Increasing the amount of preferred habitat will improve survival and productivity of trout in the River. If effective this technique will be applied to similar under-utilized reaches in the Pine and South Duck rivers.

WILDLIFE HABITAT PROJECTS 1988/89 *

Southeastern Region

Habitat Leases
Funding: $650
Five years
Ongoing

To protect valuable habitat of white-tailed deer and other woodland wildlife, MHHC leased 159 acres of wooded habitat adjacent to the Red River south of Winnipeg.

Southwestern Region

Conifer Planting
Funding: $309
Three years
Ongoing

Five miles of conifer shelterbelts were planted in the Parkland W.M.A. Future management will include rotivating shelterbelts to control weeds and enhance survival of conifers.

Great Grey Owl
Funding: $106
One year
Complete

Nine nest boxes were constructed by Westbran Human Resources Opportunity Center. With the assistance of the Onanole Wildlife Association, these structures were erected in suitable habitat along the south side of Riding Mountain National Park.

Burrowing Owls
Funding: $254
One year
Complete

Five nest boxes were constructed by Westbran Human Resources Opportunity Center. Three were installed in the Archie-Ellice Community Pasture and two were placed in suitable habitats in the Brandon area.

* Note: "Funding identifies only funds spent in the 1988/89 fiscal year".

Burrowing Owl Leases
Funding: $1,240
5 years
Ongoing

To protect remaining endangered populations of Burrowing Owls, MHHC leased 420 acres of habitat known to be frequented by these rare birds.

Saw-Whet & Screech Owls
Funding: $1,287
One year
Complete

With labor provided by Westbran Human Resources Opportunity Center, 20 nest boxes were constructed. Members of Westman Wilderness Club assisted in erecting 10 structures in riparian habitat along the Assiniboine River between P.R. 250 and Grand Valley. Five structures were placed in the Spruce Woods Forest Reserve and the remaining 5 were placed along the Little Saskatchewan River in the Rivers area.

Habitat Leases
Funding: $13,740
Five years
Ongoing

To protect valuable white-tailed deer habitat, MHHC paid financial incentives to 22 landowners for 3,696 acres of wildlife habitat protected by agreement. In addition MHHC entered into 5-year agreements with 2 landowners to protect an additional 219 acres at no cost to MHHC.

McKay Property
Funding: $42,278
One year
Complete

A 320 acre parcel at the junction of the Pembina River and Badger Creek was purchased by MHHC. The property will be managed to retain its present importance as a major wintering area for white-tailed deer.

Martens Property
Funding: $30,548
One year
Complete

A valuable 245 acre parcel of oak-aspen woodland along the Pembina River was purchased by MHHC to preserve its wildlife habitat. Other habitat in the area continues to be lost to agricultural use or development.

Property Development
Funding: $8,476
One year
Complete

Frequently, lands purchased by MHHC contain small parcels of arable land. Where they occur, management plans call for the establishment of tame forage fields. In addition to providing a benefit to wildlife, these fields are leased to farmers for agricultural use (haying). In 1988/89 a total of 127 acres of forage fields were established on 4 parcels of MHHC land.

Roberts Property
Donation
Ongoing

In 1988 MHHC received a 160 acre land bequeathment from the William Roberts estate. The land, located in the MacGregor area, will be managed as a wildlife refuge as requested by the donor. A cairn will be erected on the site acknowledging Mr. Roberts' contribution to wildlife conservation.

Western Region

Meadow Maintenance
Funding: $467
One year
Ongoing

Grasslands are a vital component of Duck Mountain elk range. Periodic burning of these grasslands prevent encroachment of trees and shrubs and also restores soil nutrients thereby providing a more nutritious food source for wildlife, particularly elk.

Alonsa W.M.A.
Funding: $562
One year
Complete

Several years ago MHHC funded the development of numerous one acre tame forage plots in the Alonsa W.M.A. In order to control vehicular traffic on these areas, locked cable gates were installed on key access trails.

Cooperative Projects

Duck Mountain Elk
Funding: $10,584
Five years
Ongoing

A cooperative project involving MHHC, Wildlife Habitat Canada and the province was initiated to improve elk habitat within the Duck Mountains. The project involves the use of prescribed burns to re-establish grasslands in a portion of the mountains that historically contained vast expanses of grasslands interspersed with islands of wooded vegetation. The creation of grasslands should also help to reduce elk depredation problems on agricultural areas surrounding Duck Mountain.

Land Acquisition
Funding: $9,274
One year
Complete

A cooperative project including MHHC, Wildlife Habitat Canada, the Manitoba Naturalists Society and the Manitoba Wildlife Federation involved the acquisition of a 160 acre parcel containing an internationally reknown red-sided garter snake hibernaculum. The acquisition of this parcel ensures protection of the snake denning areas situated on a fragile shale outcrop along Brigadoon Creek in west-central Manitoba.

Prairie Project
Funding: $2,000
One year
Complete

MHHC and World Wildlife Fund (Canada) cooperatively acquired a small strip of land in the R.M. of Hanover to facilitate the relocation of a proposed road to protect a vestigial stand of tall grass prairie.

General Administration and Public Information

Board of Directors
Funding: $7,052
Ongoing

Expenses are incurred by the Board of Directors in performing volunteer duties involving inspection of projects, project proposal review and policy development.

Project Signs
Funding: $4,173
Ongoing

Habitat Heritage Corporation signs are erected on all projects funded by MHHC to promote public awareness of the Corporation's role in conserving the province's fish and wildlife habitats.

Fish Poster
Funding: $610
Two years
Ongoing

A colour poster of 23 freshwater fish species and titled "Manitoba's Fish Depend on Healthy Habitat" is planned. The distribution of these fish in Manitoba, their habitat requirements, and the conditions which threaten their habitats will be described for each species. In addition, the variability in preferred habitats for the 23 species will be shown by indicating "Where They Live" in a sketch depicting river, marsh and lake environments.

Spawning Stream Rehabilitation Film
Funding: $2,750
Three years
Ongoing

A 16mm film and VHS video were released which describe a method for rehabilitating channelized water systems using selected physical geometry characteristics of natural spawning streams. Written and produced by stream hydrologist Dr. Robert Newbury, the film shows how channelization and the extension of stream channels to drain wetlands have caused stream instability and significantly reduced fisheries. It outlines a methodology to rehabilitate the straight, steep-gradient, agricultural drainage canals to improve reproduction by re-establishing stable riffle and pool sequences. The film is being sold nationally and internationally.

Manitoba

THE MANITOBA HABITAT HERITAGE CORPORATION

REPORT OF THE PROVINCIAL AUDITOR'S OFFICE

We have examined the balance sheet of The Manitoba Habitat Heritage Corporation as at March 31, 1989 and the statement of revenue, expenditure and unexpended funds for the year then ended. Our examination was made in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, and accordingly included such tests and other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances.

In our opinion, these financial statements present fairly the financial position of the Corporation as at March 31, 1989 and the results of its operations for the year then ended in accordance with the accounting policies described in note 2 to the financial statements applied on a basis consistent with that of the preceding year.

F. H. Jackson, CA,
Provincial Auditor.

October 6, 1989,
Winnipeg, Manitoba.

THE MANITOBA HABITAT HERITAGE CORPORATION

Balance Sheet
as at March 31, 1989
(with 1988 figures for comparison)

	1989	1988
ASSETS		
Current:		
Cash	$ 18,408	$ 13,653
Accounts receivable	19,015	-
Prepaid expenses	-	1,369
	37,423	15,022
Fixed (Notes 2 a and b):		
Land	241,498	146,398
Equipment	31,430	-
	272,928	146,398
	$ 310,351	$ 161,420
LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	$ 28,007	$ 8,059
Investment in fixed assets (Note 2 a)	272,928	146,398
Unexpended funds	9,416	6,963
	$ 310,351	$ 161,420

APPROVED ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD

Director

Director

THE MANITOBA HABITAT HERITAGE CORPORATION

Statement of Revenue, Expenditure and Unexpended Funds
for the year ended March 31, 1989
(with 1988 figures for comparison)

	1989	1988
Revenue:		
Grant from the Government of the Province of Manitoba	$ 250,000	$ 250,000
Interest	4,416	3,787
Contributions and donations	225	14,705
Project cost recoveries	31,314	10,922
Total revenue	285,955	279,414
Expenditure:		
Project related costs:		
Enhancement	126,643	161,174
Acquisition	95,100	82,784
Easements	17,087	10,385
Research studies	12,400	7,000
Public information	9,086	34,647
Property taxes	3,046	-
Appraisal fees	1,893	-
Grants:		
Fort Whyte Centre	-	11,050
Manitoba Naturalists Society	2,000	4,500
Ducks Unlimited Canada	-	4,650
General and administrative:		
Board expenses	7,052	2,268
Computer equipment and software	4,570	-
Stationery supplies	78	1,820
Professional fees	4,470	2,500
Bank services	77	100
Total expenditure	283,502	322,878
Revenue over (under) expenditure	2,453	(43,464)
Unexpended funds at beginning of year	6,963	50,427
Unexpended funds at end of year	$ 9,416	$ 6,963

Notes to the Financial Statements
March 31, 1989

1. Nature of Organization

The Manitoba Habitat Heritage Corporation was established in February, 1986 as a Crown Corporation under The Manitoba Habitat Heritage Act. The objectives of the Corporation are the conservation, restoration and enhancement of Manitoba fish and wildlife habitat and the fish and wildlife populations.

2. Significant Accounting Policies

a) These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles except:

i) Fixed assets are charged to operating expenditures in the year of acquisition.

ii) Fixed assets are capitalized with a corresponding amount being reflected in "Investment in Fixed Assets". In 1989, this was extended to include equipment. No depreciation is recorded on fixed assets.

b) Fixed assets are valued at cost, except for donated land which is valued at the appraised value at acquisition date.

c) Professional and administrative support is provided by Fisheries and Wildlife Branches staff of the Department of Natural Resources at no cost to the Corporation. This support is estimated to be approximately $82,000 (1988 - $77,000). These costs are not reflected in these financial statements.

3. Commitments

a) The Corporation leases parcels of land for wildlife habitat. The future minimum lease payments for each of the next five years are:

1990	16,947
1991	15,201
1992	14,429
1993	10,270
1994	6,242

THE MANITOBA HABITAT HERITAGE CORPORATION

Notes to the Financial Statements
March 31, 1989

b) The Corporation is committed to expend $330,000 (1988 - $47,600) under cooperative project funding agreements as follows:

1990	70,000
1991	70,000
1992	70,000
1993	60,000
1994	60,000

Expenditures for these commitments will be included in enhancement and acquisition expenditures in the Statement of Revenue, Expenditure and Unexpended Funds.